

place these natural inhabitants of the earth in danger of extinction.

For example, the population of African elephants has decreased from 1.3 million to 400,000, with 22,000 poached in 2012.

Only 3,200 tigers remain in the wild, and these tigers remain in danger of being poached for their skins, bones and body parts.

H.R. 2494 works to enforce the United Nations Security Council multilateral sanctions against individuals and entities engaging in illicit trade of wildlife in support of armed groups like the Lord's Resistance Army, al-Shabaab and other terrorist organizations.

This legislation supports the efforts of the State Department under the Transnational Organized Crime Rewards Program to dismantle the wildlife trafficking syndicates in the global south from Africa to Asia.

This legislation supports the President's Executive Order 13648, geared at combatting wildlife trafficking, through the creation of a Presidential Task Force responsible for our national strategy to combat wildlife trafficking.

Indeed, the United States along with 40 countries from Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America participated in the London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade where we collectively committed to addressing the cultural, social, environmental and economic consequences of the illegal trade in wildlife.

Mr. Speaker, this bill seeks to protect endangered species, expand and professionalize wildlife enforcement networks through: assessment of the capacity of existing enforcement networks in member countries; establishment of a central secretariat to coordinate enforcement networks; facilitation of law enforcement and intelligence efforts and information sharing; utilization of the expertise of international bodies and civil society organizations to tackle the issue; and training of enforcement personnel, and the creation and institutionalization of a wildlife enforcement platform based on the rule of law.

Indeed, by making certain large-scale wildlife trafficking crimes predicate offenses for money laundering, racketeering, and smuggling, this bill elevates the seriousness of major wildlife trafficking offenses, putting wildlife crime on par legally with other forms of transnational organized crime.

Mr. Speaker, as ranking member on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, this bill is a step in the right direction as it enforces existing laws, directs fines, forfeitures, and penalties, all imperative for wildlife conservation.

I strongly support H.R. 2494 because it supports on-the-ground efforts to protect species, including elephants, tigers, and rhinos from becoming victims of wildlife crime.

HONORING MRS. LATONYA
WILLIAMS-BRADLEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable entrepreneur, Mrs. LaTonya Williams-Bradley.

Strands of long, black locks fell effortlessly onto the floor as a pair of young eyes looked

on eagerly—carefully observing the technique of the hands behind the shears that snipped away to create a new, edgy look.

Mrs. Williams-Bradley of Cleveland watched intently as her mother cut, washed and curled mane after mane, building a strong clientele at her Rosedale salon.

She remembers while sitting and observing her mother at her salon as a child, that she desired to follow in her mother's footsteps and become a hair stylist.

But, what she didn't know was that she would also become an agent, to help others do the same, as owner and CEO of Goshen School of Cosmetology in Cleveland, Mississippi.

As a single parent Mrs. Williams-Bradley received her cosmetology education at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, Mississippi, where she graduated in 2006.

After passing the state licensure to become a licensed cosmetologist, Mrs. Williams-Bradley returned to Coahoma Community College to further her cosmetology career to become a cosmetology instructor and completed that course of study in 2009. She was immediately offered the opportunity to become a cosmetology instructor at Coahoma Community College.

After working at Coahoma Community College she worked at Blue Cliff College in Gulfport, Mississippi as a cosmetology instructor.

During her tenure as an instructor she decided that it was time to pursue her dream of owning her salon and began researching entrepreneurship practices and opportunities, eventually, deciding it was time to pursue her dream of one day opening her own salon. In 2011 she opened Goshen Salon and Boutique in Cleveland, Mississippi. She chose the biblical name Goshen because it is a land of plenty, comfort and growth in Egypt. On July 29, 2013 she opened Goshen School of Cosmetology with a core curriculum and institution designed to promote growth, increase and comfort.

Now, what was once the dream of a little girl has become a reality. Mrs. Williams-Bradley has enjoyed substantial success in the exciting field of cosmetology. Where over the last nine years she owned and managed two successful hair salons while teaching at two colleges, inspired numerous students to strive for excellence and to achieve their maximum potential.

The motto she shares with others is "Whatever is your passion and your heart's desire—pursue it and be the best at it and believe that there is nothing too hard for God."

Mrs. Williams-Bradley is married to Tony Bradley and has four children: Teara, Tamaryea, Zira and Lauren. She is the daughter of Freddie and Barbara Graham and has two (2) siblings: Erica Jackson and Beauty Graham.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing entrepreneur.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote during the first vote of the last vote se-

ries on September 30, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted "No" on Roll Call Vote 527, which was the Adoption of H. Con. Res. 79, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of the Senate amendment to H.R. 719.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote No. 582, a recorded vote on H.R. 1853. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF
T SANTORA

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate T Santora on his long career as a Los Angeles labor leader, and as an influential activist for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals.

T has dedicated decades of his professional life to the Communications Workers of America, a union that protects the interests of thousands of L.A. workers. He has spent 35 years as a full-time CWA representative, working in both local and national positions.

Today, T is President Emeritus of CWA Local 9003, which represents a diverse membership of approximately 2,500 workers in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area. He also chairs the Legislative-Political Committee of the CWA Southern California Council, representing 27,000 CWA members in Southern California. And he serves as National Co-Chair of the CWA Telecom Ad Hoc Committee, which regularly convenes workplace leaders in the telecommunications industry from the U.S., Canada, and Puerto Rico.

T is also a leader in the LGBT rights movement, and a powerful voice for the needs of LGBT laborers. From 1998 to 2005, he served as National Co-President of Pride at Work, the AFL-CIO's LGBT constituency group. In addition, he represented CWA on the Executive Board of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and on the Coalition of Labor Union Women's HIV/AIDS Advisory Board.

T believes in the need to make Los Angeles' workforce the best it can be. Last year, L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti appointed T to the L.A. Workforce Development Board, where he serves on the Board's Executive Committee and chairs the Ad Hoc Committee on Expanding Apprenticeship Opportunities.

Finally, T cares deeply about the youth of Los Angeles. He is the Founder and an Executive Board Member of the CWA 9003 Children's Fund, a non-profit charitable organization which serves the needs of L.A.'s underprivileged and homeless children.

The L.A. City Council recently issued a resolution honoring T for his 30 years of community service. That honor was greatly deserved.

In public life and the private sector, T Santora has been an Angeleno to admire. As he takes a well-earned retirement, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting him on a magnificent career, and to wish him every health and happiness.

HONORING HOSKINS LEARNING
CENTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hoskins Learning Center of Batesville, MS.

Mrs. Lillie L. Hoskins, a woman of favor and faith, is a native of Batesville, MS. She has been an educator and Daycare Provider for over 35 years and is currently the owner and operator of the Hoskins Learning Center.

She graduated from South Panola High School in 1973 and later obtained a secretarial degree from Northwest Community College. In 2000, she obtained State credentials as an Early Childhood Education Director.

Mrs. Hoskins was born into a family where she was rooted in her faith in Christ. She is the daughter of the late George and Audrey Leland and the youngest girl of eight (8) children, but even as a young girl she knew, she would someday spend her life working with children.

Mrs. Hoskins is the mother of two children, a daughter-in-law and has two grandchildren. Over the course of forty-two (42) years of marriage, Lawrence and Lillie have traveled and touched the lives of many people.

In 1979, Mrs. Hoskins prayed to God through faith and opened the first daycare, Magnolia Kindergarten, which she owned and operated until 2003. In 2003, she expanded her business to include infants and early toddlers. At this time she also changed the operating name to Hoskins Learning Center, as it is known today.

Mrs. Hoskins has touched the community and the lives of children in the city of Batesville in many ways, by opening her house and heart to train and tutor our children.

As owner and operator of Hoskins Learning Center, her goal has been to serve the children of Batesville and Panola County, preparing them all to be productive and responsible adults in a rapidly changing world. Since 1979, the daycare has had a 96% high school graduation rate, including several valedictorians, salutatorians and honor roll students, one of which went on to play football in the NFL.

For all of her outstanding accomplishments, Mrs. Hoskins is recognized as a trailblazer in Early Childhood Education, in the great State of Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hoskins Learning Center for their commitment and dedication to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK TAKAI

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, November 2, 2015, I was absent from the House due to illness. Due to my absence, I am not recorded on any legislative measures for the day. I would like to reflect how I would have voted had I been present for legislative business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 582, to direct the President to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization, and for other purposes.

IN RECOGNITION OF TREVOR G.
BROWNE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RUBEN GALLEG0

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. GALLEG0. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the staff and students of Trevor G. Browne High School in Phoenix, Arizona, who went above and beyond in supporting my office's community-wide citizenship fair.

The largest school in the Phoenix Union High School District, Trevor Browne High School currently serves over 3000 students. The school's mission is to work with families and the community to provide a comprehensive education to all students, a commitment they fulfill by offering a variety of learning opportunities both within and outside of the regular school day calendar. The principal, Dr. Gabe Trujillo, and the teachers work tirelessly to meet each student's unique needs, and students' love of their school is clear in the number of graduates who return as faculty members.

Trevor Browne High School did not merely provide the space for my office's citizenship fair—the staff and students went above and beyond to assist those seeking help with their citizenship paperwork. Dr. Trujillo and members of the school community provided invaluable support for the event, serving as volunteers and helping ensure that we could serve as many individuals as possible. Thanks to their hard work, we were able to aid over 150 Arizona residents in navigating the path to U.S. citizenship.

I truly appreciate the assistance of Dr. Trujillo and everyone from Trevor Browne High School, whose selfless dedication was vital to making our citizenship fair a success.

RECOGNIZING MR. JAMES VERNON
OF MORTON, ILLINOIS

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. LaHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I commemorate the heroic acts of Mr. James Vernon of Morton, Illinois. Mr. Vernon, now 75 years old, put himself between 16 terrified children and a

knife-wielding teen determined to cause harm at an Illinois public library.

Mr. Vernon was leading a chess club meeting with local children when the attacker entered the library holding a knife in each hand. Vernon, a retired Caterpillar technology worker and Army veteran, averted the attacker's attention away from the children, ages 7 to 13, allowing time for the students to exit the library. Vernon attempted to talk the attacker down before any advances were made. During his discussion with the teen, Vernon used the diversion to deduce that the attacker was right-hand dominant, which would help if he needed to subdue the attacker.

Despite the efforts of Vernon to calm the attacker, the teen once again became aggressive. Recalling the Army training he received nearly half a century ago, Vernon blocked one blade with his left hand and threw the attacker onto a table. Mr. Vernon suffered lacerations to his hand as he subdued the attacker before the authorities arrived.

All children escaped the library without harm thanks to Mr. Vernon's courageous act. I feel it is most appropriate to commend James Vernon today and thank him for his years of service to the community and to this country.

HONORING UPPER KUTZ BARBER
& STYLE COLLEGE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable business, Upper Kutz Barber & Style College.

Upper Kutz Barber & Style College maintains the philosophy that their students come to them for; education, skill development, and career advancement. They believe in equal opportunity for all students, reinforced with training. Placement assistance has helped their students to become enterprising professionals.

The school has an orderly, purposeful, businesslike atmosphere which is free from threat of physical harm. The school climate is not oppressive and is conducive to teaching and learning. The school has an atmosphere of expatriation in which the staff believes and demonstrates that all students can attain mastery of the essential barber cultural skills and that they have the capability to help all students attain that mastery.

The mission of Upper Kutz Barber & Style College is to train men and women: 1. To familiarize and instruct students in the proper and most current methods in all phases of barbering; 2. To make a living in the business world; 3. To become good citizens on both local and national levels; 4. To be able to recognize problems and procedures in business and industry from the view-point of both producer and consumer; 5. To assist students in suitable job placement; 6. To provide assistance and counseling to graduates; 7. To develop self-discipline, self-reliance, and self-direction and; 8. To enter the national work force as productive individuals.

Furthermore, the school has at least 1200 square feet of floor space, composed of two separate areas: The class room and lecture area and the clinical/lab area, where services